

Chapter 250-83 WAC

REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESHMAN ADMISSION

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-010 Definitions. "Public baccalaureate institution" or "institution" means any college or university which is operated by the state of Washington and awards bachelor's degrees: The University of Washington, Washington State University, Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Western Washington University, and any baccalaureate institution created or acquired by the state of Washington subsequent to the adoption of these rules and operated by the state of Washington to award bachelor's degrees.

"Freshman" means a student who has not enrolled in college course work after leaving high school, and who may or may not have earned college credits while in high school.

"Applicant" means a person seeking admission as a freshman to a public baccalaureate institution.

"Core courses" are those courses that are designed to prepare students for college and that applicants must complete to be considered for admission as freshmen to a public baccalaureate institution. The higher education coordinating board determines the academic subject areas in which applicants must complete core courses. Each local school district, in consultation with the higher education coordinating board, determines which of its individual course offerings meet the definition of a core course.

"High school credit" or "credit" shall be as defined by the state board of education in WAC 180-51-050.

"Algebra-based science course" means a science course that requires students to use the knowledge and skills generally obtained in the first year of high school algebra. An algebra-based science course requires concurrent enrollment in or successful completion of first year high school algebra.

"ACT assessment" or "ACT" means the college entrance examination published by ACT, Inc., Iowa City, Iowa.

"SAT reasoning test" or "SAT" means the college entrance examination published by the College Board, New York, New York.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-020 Effective date. These rules take effect for all freshmen seeking admission to the state's public baccalaureate institutions during and after the summer 2008 academic term.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-030 Replacement of previous admission guidance and policies. These rules supersede previously established higher education coordinating board guidance and policies governing minimum basic admission requirements and alternative admission requirements for freshmen.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-040 Purpose. The purpose of the minimum admission requirements for freshmen is to ensure that:

✎ Freshmen selected to enroll at the state's public baccalaureate institutions are academically prepared for college;

✎ The amount of remedial instruction required for recent high school graduates is minimized; and

✎ Students and families understand that completion of a rigorous high school curriculum in high school is critically important for success in college.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-050 Minimum requirements for freshman admission. Applicants seeking admission as freshmen to a public baccalaureate institution must:

(1) Successfully complete the following core courses:

✍ Four credits of English, including three credits of literature and composition; may include one credit of elective English, such as creative writing, journalistic writing, and English as a second language; and

✍ Four credits of mathematics, with at least one credit completed in the senior year of high school, including:

- One credit each of algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra or three credits of integrated mathematics through integrated mathematics III; and

- One credit that may include courses such as statistics, pre-calculus, an algebra-based science course, or an additional mathematics course beyond algebra; and

✍ Three credits of social science; and

✍ Two credits of laboratory science, including one credit of algebra-based biology, chemistry, or physics; and

✍ Two credits of the same foreign language, the same native American language, or American sign language; and

✍ One credit of fine, visual, or performing arts, or one additional credit in mathematics, English, social science, laboratory science, foreign language, native American language, or American sign language.

Students who successfully complete pre-calculus or mathematics analysis before high school graduation will be considered to have met the mathematics requirement.

Applicants who achieve proficiency on the mathematics section of the tenth-grade Washington assessment of student learning will be determined to have completed the first year of high school algebra and geometry, or integrated mathematics I and II.

Applicants who achieve proficiency on the reading and writing sections of the tenth-grade Washington assessment of student learning will be determined to have completed the first two years of high school core course requirements in English.

Applicants are encouraged to take additional core courses in high school when available.

(2) A minimum of three credits of core courses each year of high school including the senior year.

(3) Earn a minimum unweighted cumulative grade point average of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale.

(4) Take the SAT reasoning test or the ACT assessment and submit examination scores to each institution where the applicant is applying for admission.

(5) Colleges and universities recognize that experiences and activities in addition to academic achievement can contribute to a successful college application, and that students with diverse experiences and backgrounds contribute to a healthy and vibrant higher education learning community. Therefore, institutions may consider factors such as students'

grade point averages, test scores, the overall strength of their high school curricula, and nonacademic characteristics such as their personal essays, community activities, personal circumstances or special talents. No more than fifteen percent of the freshmen enrolled annually at each institution may be deficient in their completion of core courses.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-060 Exceptions to the minimum freshman admission requirements. International applicants are not required to provide SAT or ACT test scores. Other applicants unable to provide SAT or ACT test scores may petition the institution for a waiver. No more than five percent of freshmen enrolled annually at each institution may receive waivers from this requirement.

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-83-070 Authority and responsibilities of institutions. Each institution may establish additional requirements that exceed these minimum requirements for admission at that institution.

Each institution establishes the procedures applicants must follow and the deadlines that applicants must meet to be considered for admission at that institution.

Each institution establishes the processes by which applicants are selected for admission at that institution.

Institutions reserve the right to request additional information about the academic credentials presented by applicants for admission from high schools and other education providers.